



DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAMME

# FINA SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMME

SWIMMING

FINA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME | 2019 - 2020





## DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

### Objective

In line with the FINA Development Programme, FINA aims to assist the FINA National Member Federations to qualify their athletes for the upcoming XXXII Olympic Games in Tokyo (JPN) and for the 15<sup>th</sup> FINA World Swimming Championships in Abu Dhabi (UAE).

As part of the development of the National Federations, contributing on the athletes' preparation for international competitions is crucial to their progress and to the future of the National teams.

The main goal of the FINA Scholarships Programme is to identify, prepare and qualify a limited number of athletes aspiring to participate in the next Olympic Games and FINA World Swimming Championships (25 m).

### Description

The FINA Scholarships Programme offers the opportunity to obtain financial and technical assistance for one potential elite athlete per Federation/year according to these guidelines:

- National Federations are invited to select and propose one potential elite athlete to benefit from this programme
- The scholarship will support the athletes in their preparation and qualification for the Olympic Games and for the FINA World Swimming Championships, with particular focus on those athletes and National Federations with the greatest needs
- The assistance provided by FINA will contribute to improve the athletes' training conditions in their home countries or will enable the scholarship holders to train abroad in a high-performance FINA Training Centre:

NF Training Option	Training Centre Option
<p>The NF manages the athlete's scholarship funds and selects the training location.</p> <p>Reports made by the NF and sent to FINA every 2 months.</p> <p>Administrated by the NF and FINA.</p>	<p>Athlete training in one of the training centres established by FINA.</p> <p>Reports made by the centre and sent to FINA every 2 months.</p> <p>Administrated by the training centre and FINA.</p>

- FINA will determine the length of the scholarship, once the proposal submitted by the athlete and his/her National Federation has been carefully reviewed:

**Short Term Programme**  
(3 month duration)

Those who are close to the set "B" standard objective could participate in short-term preparation

**Medium Term Programme**  
(3-6 month duration)

Designed for athletes who have the potential to achieve the "B" standard and need better technical and environmental conditions

**Long Term Programme**  
(6-12 month duration)

For young athletes (under 23) who need a longer time to achieve the "B" standard

## Content

The National Federation or the Training Centre will ensure that the following conditions are available for the athlete's preparation:

- Access to appropriate training facilities
- A specialised coach
- Regular medical and scientific assistance and control
- Necessary accommodation
- A balanced nutritional plan
- A fixed offset travel to participate in one Qualifying Event (except in the case explained below)
- Access to technical information concerning the FINA World Championships and Olympic Games

Please note that the items to be covered by the scholarship and the budget distribution must be agreed upon by FINA, the athlete, the National Federation and the selected Training Centre if any.



## Athlete Training Options

The FINA Scholarships Programme aims to provide the best training environment to the athletes. For this reason, FINA in coordination with the relevant National Federation, will decide if the athlete will train in his/her home country or abroad in a high-performance training centre.

Factors to consider will be, among others, the specific needs of the athlete, his/her preferences, any particular need and his/her age.

FINA and the athlete's National Federation will work together in order to take the best decision for the athlete.

### 1. NF Training Option

The National Federation will administer the FINA Scholarship and will be responsible of choosing the athlete's training location.

FINA will carefully assess the budget proposal submitted by the National Federation. The monthly budget will be agreed by FINA and the National Federation and will depend on the cost of training the athlete in his/her chosen training environment.

### 2. Training Centre Option

FINA will assist the scholarship holder to find a high-level training centre with which FINA has a service agreement.

- FINA Training Centre: FINA has agreements with a limited number of specialised high-performance training centres.

The specific training centre will be selected in collaboration with the athlete's National Federation, based on the athlete's profile and particular needs.

The training centre will be responsible for the administration of the FINA Scholarship, both technically and financially.



## Olympic Games and FINA World Swimming Championships Qualification

The main objective of the FINA Scholarships Programme is to assist the athletes to participate in the next Olympic Games and FINA World Swimming Championships (25 m).

Any costs related to the participation in one FINA Qualifying Event (link to be updated) must be covered as follows:

- Athletes benefiting from a FINA Scholarship – NF Training Option: any cost such as entry fees, board and lodging, coach travel expenses, etc. must be covered by the monthly scholarship funds.
- Athletes benefiting from a FINA Scholarship – Training Centre Option: any cost must be covered by the total budget allocated to the scholarship holder, being the funds directly managed by the training centre.

Additionally, FINA will provide up to 1,000 USD travel subsidy to those athletes who need to travel to another country to participate in a FINA Qualifying Event. FINA will assess case by case any request concerning the travel subsidy.

Athletes benefiting from a long-term scholarship who fail to qualify for the next Olympic Games and FINA World Swimming Championships (25 m) might be withdrawn as of the date of their final qualification attempt.

## External Partners

- National Federations
- Independent training centres

## National Federations

The FINA Scholarships Programme aims to promote universal representation at the FINA World Swimming Championships and at the Olympic Games. Therefore, National Federations with less participation in international competitions will be put forward.

As it is mentioned above, the main objective of the FINA Scholarships Programme is to focus the support on the athletes and National Federations with the greatest needs.

## Athlete's Profile

FINA Scholarship holders must meet the following requirements in order to benefit from the programme:

- Adequate technical level to be able to qualify for the Olympic Games and for the FINA World Swimming Championships (25 m): the athlete must prove that he/she has achieved a performance that is between the FINA World Championships "B" Standard and the "S" Standard (please see Annex 1). FINA will check the ranking and the results obtained at national and international competitions
- Only the athletes to whom a scholarship will make a significant difference to their training and who do not have access to alternative means of paying for their preparation may be put forward by their National Federation for a FINA Scholarship
- FINA, NFs or training centres may not put forward as scholarship candidates any athlete convicted of a doping offence or sanctioned for actions contrary to the standards of FINA Rules, especially those of FINA Ethics and Conducts
- The athlete has to be available to travel and to reside at a centre that is determined to be the most suitable venue for the athlete's programme
- The athlete has no current commitments and is available to join the Training Centre for the agreed duration of the programme

FINA National Member Federations are kindly requested to study the project description carefully and to consider whether there is any athlete in their country who realistically would have the potential and necessary commitment to be included in this programme.

## Application Procedure Profile

National Federations have the opportunity to apply for one FINA Scholarship per year:

- National Federations are requested to choose among their athletes and select the athletes who better comply with the above-mentioned criteria
- The Application Form (Annex 2) must be completed and submitted to the FINA Office by the **6<sup>th</sup> of September 2019**.
- Only National Federations are entitled to apply for the FINA Scholarships Programme
- At the end of the selection process, National Federations will be informed about the outcome and the necessary future steps to be taken



## Analysis and Approval

FINA will carefully assess each application, if needed, in collaboration with the National Federation:

- FINA is responsible for the final approval of the FINA Scholarship and for the athletes' training option
- Each party involved in the FINA Scholarships Programme (FINA, the relevant National Federation, the relevant training centre if any and the athlete) will be required to sign a contract. The contract will list the responsibilities of each party and the monthly budget distribution of the scholarship.

## Financial Conditions

### 1. *NF Training Option*

FINA and the relevant National Federation will agree upon the monthly scholarship budget allocated to his/her athlete:

- All the payments will be made to the National Federation's bank account and the National Federation, will then administer the scholarship funds regardless of where his/her athlete is training
- FINA will request the specific details of any of the costs to be accounted for and submitted through a breakdown summary of expenses.

### 2. *Training Centre Option*

FINA will negotiate a fixed monthly rate with the Training Centres with which an agreement is signed:

- All the payments will be made to the chosen Training Centre
- FINA will issue a two-way ticket for the Scholarship holder, or -upon approval- will reimburse the scholarship holder's flight ticket to travel to and from the Training Centre in economy fare

### 3. *Travel expenses*

For those athletes at a FINA Training or Development Centre FINA will cover the travel arrangements of the scholarship holder at the beginning and at the end of the programme.



FINA will provide a travel subsidy of up to 1,000 USD only to those athletes who need to travel to another country to participate in a FINA Qualifying Event.

### Follow up and Control

FINA requires the Report Form (Annex 3) to be submitted at the end of each term (every two months) as of the scholarship approval, by either the relevant National Federation or the Training Centre:

- This document allows to monitor the athlete's progress towards the Olympic Games and the FINA Swimming World Championships qualification
- The form includes a financial statement to be signed by the athlete and by the relevant National Federation, confirming the distribution of the scholarship funds as agreed in the contract

### Termination of a FINA Scholarship

FINA reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship from any athlete in the following cases:

- Non-qualification for the FINA Swimming World Championship or the Olympic Games
- Decrease of technical level
- Medical reason that prevents the athlete from training
- Unethical behaviour such as doping, discipline, etc.
- Breach of the athlete/National Federation's contract or of the FINA Rules
- Any other reason in mutual agreement with the relevant National Federation or Training Centre

